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*The Tagalog Verb.*—By FRANK R. BLAKE, Associate in Johns Hopkins University.

#### ROOTS AND PARTICLES

The words<sup>1</sup> of the Tagalog language, as of the other languages of the Philippine group, are in the last analysis made up of two distinct kinds of material, namely roots and particles.

Roots are regularly dissyllabic, and form either in their unchanged form or with additions, in the first instance nouns and verbs, and also secondarily other parts of speech, e. g. *káin* ‘to eat’; *báhay* ‘house’; *pára* ‘likeness, like.’

Particles are regularly monosyllabic, or extensions or combinations of monosyllabic elements, and are used either to form pronouns or adverbs, or in the various processes of the derivation of a root, e. g. *ko* ‘mine’; *na* ‘now’; *um* (*um-inúm* ‘to drink’)—verbal particle; *taga* ‘inhabitant of’ (*taga-may-níla*)—nominal particle (probably an extension of *tag*) ; *ka-pag* ‘as soon as’—verbal particle.

The Tagalog verb is regularly formed by combining certain particles with the root, the use of the simple root as verb being comparatively rare except in colloquial speech. These particles, however, besides making roots into verbs, usually indicate at the same time the kind or manner of the verbal action, e. g. *g-um-alíng* (<*galing*) ‘become good’; *mag-larô* (<*larô*) ‘play’; *maka-tákot* (<*tákot*) ‘cause to fear’; *ma-túwa* (<*túwa*) ‘be joyful’; *pa-tólong*<sup>2</sup> (<*tólong*) ‘ask for help.’

These particles may be grouped into a number of classes:—

- a) those which form what may be called the active stem, e. g. *g-um-alíng*, *mag-larô*, etc.

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<sup>1</sup> The accent marks on Tagalog words are employed with the following meanings: acute denotes place of stress, grave on a final syllable denotes that the vowel is followed by the glottal catch, circumflex on a final syllable denotes final stress and final glottal catch.

<sup>2</sup> The combination *ng* is pronounced like the guttural nasal *ng* in *sing*. At the beginning of a word, and when it stands between two vowels, i. e. at the beginning of a syllable, the usual spelling is with a tilde over the *g*. This tilde has been omitted thruout in this article. The sound of *ng* in *finger*, i. e. guttural nasal + *g*, which is usually written *ng* without tilde, will be written *ngg* to avoid confusion.

- b) those which form what may be called the passive stem, e. g. *pag-larô*, *ka-tákot*, etc.
- c) those which make passive verbs from roots and passive stems, e. g. *s-in-úlat*, *in-áral*, *sulát-in*, *i-pag-larô*, *paglaró-an*, *i-katákot*, etc.
- d) those which indicate some modification of the verbal idea, but lie outside of the regular tense-formation of the verb, e. g. *ka-raratíng* ‘to have just arrived’; *kapag-alis* ‘as soon as (he) went’; *pagka-tapús* ‘having finished’; *pinaka-magúlang* ‘supplying the place of a parent.’
- e) those which, tho indicating a kind of action like the other particles, are employed only in connection with those of the first three classes, e. g. *ma-nga-g-tángis* ‘weep (of many)’ from *mag-tángis* ‘weep’; *mag-tolóng-an* ‘help one another’ from *mag-tólong* ‘help.’

The particles of the first three classes, with various modifications to express mode and tense, are employed by the language to make up its regular verbal formation, and will be spoken of collectively as Verbalizing particles, or separately as Active, Special Passive, and Essential Passive, particles respectively. The other two classes will be spoken of as Primary and Secondary Subsidiary particles.

The great majority of these particles are prefixes; three, viz. the essential passive particles *in* and *an*, and the secondary subsidiary particle *an*, are suffixes; two, viz. the active particle *um* and its modification *ungm*, and the essential passive tense particle *in*, are prefixed to roots with vocalic initial, and infixated after an initial root consonant; one, viz. the secondary subsidiary particle *nга*, is always infixated. A particle *i*, perhaps identical with the prefix *i*, occurs as suffix in certain imperative forms; cf. page 406.

#### VERBS MADE WITH VERBALIZING PARTICLES

##### Verbal Classes

The active particles are seventeen in number, and every one except the particle *um* has a corresponding special passive particle which takes the place of the active particle when the verb is passive. The seventeen verbal classes thus formed fall into five groups, which are usually named according to the active particle. The active and special passive particles of these groups are shown in TABLE A.

Generally speaking, the meaning of these particles is the following, viz. :—

- I and II *a*—action, e. g. *s-um-úlat* ‘write’; *mag-larô* ‘play.’
- II *b*—plurality of agents, e. g. *magsi-alis* ‘go (of many).’

TABLE A  
ACTIVE AND SPECIAL PASSIVE PARTICLES

	I	II	III	IV	V
	act.	pass.	act.	pass.	act.
a	um	—	mag	pag	man
b			magsi	pagsi { pagsa	manhi { panhi hi
c			magsa	sa	maka
d			magka	pagka	
e			maki	paki	
f			magin (g) <sup>1</sup>	pagin (g)	
g			magkan	pagkan	
h			magkapa	pagkapa	
i			magpati	pagpati	

<sup>1</sup>Ending either in dental nasal *n* or in guttural nasal *ng*.

- II *c*—be or act like, e. g. *magsa-tagálog* ‘act like a Tagalog.’
- II *d*—to have, get, e. g. *magka-sakít* ‘get sick.’
- II *e*—action in company with someone, e. g. *maki-sakáy* ‘embark with’; or to ask what the root indicates, e. g. *maki-písang* ‘ask for a piecee.’
- II *f*—to become, e. g. *magin(g)-bató* ‘become stone.’
- II *g*—to emit involuntarily from the body, e. g. *magkan-lulúhá* ‘weep uncontrollably.’
- II *h*—remain or be in a certain position, e. g. *makapa-ngísi* ‘have teeth showing.’
- II *i*—put oneself suddenly in a certain position, e. g. *magpati-luhód* ‘throw oneself on the knees.’
- III *a*—frequentative action, e. g. *mangúha* (< *kúha*) ‘take much or often.’
- III *b*—search out, clean from, e. g. *manhiningá* (< *tingá*) ‘clean teeth of what gets between them.’
- IV *a*—state or condition, e. g. *ma-gútum* ‘be hungry.’
- IV *b*—causative action, e. g. *maka-tákot* ‘cause to fear’; potential action ‘be able,’ e. g. *maka-súlat* ‘be able to write.’
- V *a*—ask for oneself, allow to be done to oneself, e. g. *pa-hípô* ‘allow to touch’; motion towards, e. g. *pa-rito* ‘come here.’
- V *b*—let, order, e. g. *magpa-súlat* ‘order to write.’
- V *c*—voluntary action, e. g. *magpaka-matáy* ‘commit suicide.’

Each of the active and passive stems formed by combining these particles with a root distinguish four tense and mode forms, called for the sake of brevity tense forms, viz. a modal, which expresses the subjunctive, imperative, and infinitive, a future, a preterite, and a present. The modal and preterite are the basic forms, the future being usually based on the modal, and the present on the preterite.

The active stem is used as the active modal, but the passive stems, with the exception of certain forms of group IV with the particles *ma* or *maka*, must be still further combined with the essential passive particles in order to form passive verbs. In group I these particles are applied to the root, which serves as passive stem. The essential passive particles are four in number, viz. the prefix-suffix *i*, and the suffixes *in* and *an*, which make different kinds of passive; and the prefix-infix *in* which is used in the preterite and present of all three kinds of passive. The passive stems combined respectively with the prefix *i* and the suffixes *in* and *an*, as, e. g. *i-pag-larô*, *pag-laró-in*, *pag-laró-an*, form what may be called the three passive themes. These three themes are used as the modal of the three kinds of passive.

The preterite active, except in groups I and Va, is formed by changing the *m* of the modal to *n*, e. g. *naglarô* from *maglarô*;

in group I *ng* is inserted within the *um* of the modal, e. g. *u-ung-m-ibig*, *s-u-ung-m-úlat*; in group Va, *na* is prefixed to the modal, e. g. *na-paríto*; the preterite passive, except in group IV with special particles *ma* or *maka*, is made by combining the passive stem of the *in* passive, and the passive themes of the *i* and *an* passives with the infix-prefix *in*, e. g. *p-in-ag-larô*, *i-p-in-ag-larô*, *p-in-ag-laró-an*; in group IV, the *m* of the modal is changed to *n*, e. g. *nakúha*, *namatayán*, *nakalimótan*. The future and present of both voices are formed, except in group I, from the modal and preterite respectively by partial reduplication<sup>2a</sup>; in general the first syllable of the root is reduplicated when the active or special passive particle is monosyllabic, some syllable of the particle itself, when the particle is of more than one syllable:—

future	<i>mag-lalarô</i>	from <i>mag-larô</i>
	<i>magsisi-alís</i>	“ <i>magsi-alís</i>
present	<i>ipinag-lalarô</i>	“ <i>ipinag-larô</i>
	etc., etc.	

In group I the present is made according to rule except that the infix *ungm* is not repeated in the reduplication, e. g. *s-ungm-u-súlat*; the future is made from the root by partial reduplication and not from the modal, e. g. *susúlat*.

The tense forms are invariable for person, gender, and number. The chief forms of all the verbal classes are exemplified in TABLE B.

In verbs of group I with vocalic initial the particles *um*, *ungm*, and *in* are prefixed instead of infixes, e. g. *ungmiibig* (present active of *ibig* ‘wish’), *inaáral* (present *in* passive of *áral* ‘teach’); the preterite and present of the *i* passive are made by prefixing *ini* or *ina* to the simple and partially reduplicated roots respectively, e. g. *ini-áral*, *ina-áral*; *ini-aáral*, *ina-aáral*.

Verbs of group IIc-i, follow in general the model of *magsialis*. *Sa* is used instead of *pagsa* as special passive particle in the *in* passive of the *magsa* class, e. g. *sakastiláhin*, etc., from *magsakastíla* ‘be like a Spaniard.’ Some verbs of the *magka*

<sup>2a</sup> Reduplication in Tagalog is usually of one syllable (partial reduplication) or of two syllables, usually the first two (full reduplication). If the syllable or combination of syllables to be reduplicated ends in a consonant, this consonant does not appear in the reduplication unless it is the final consonant of a root.

Class	I	IIa	IVb (potential)	Va
Root	sílat 'write'	larô 'play'	alîs 'go'	kuha 'take'
Active			dito 'here', tûlong 'help'	
Mod.	sumílat	maglarô	magsíalis	paríto
Fut.	susílat	maglalarô	magsisíalis	pariníto, paparító
Pret.	sungmûlat	naglarô	nagsaíis	neparito
Pres.	sungmusílat	naglalarô	nagsisíalis	neparirito, napaparító
In-Passive				
Mod.	sulátin	paglaróin	pagsíalisín	makúha
Fut.	susulátin	paglalaróin	pagsisíalisín	makukúha
Pret.	sinulát	pinaglarô	pinagsíalis	nakúha
Pres.	sinusulát	pinaglalarô	pinagsisíalis	nakukúha
I-Passive				
Mod.	isílat	ipaglarô	ipagsíalis	maisúlat
Fut.	isusílat	ipaglalarô	ipagsisíalis	maisusúlat
Pret.	isinulát	ipinaglarô	ipinagsíalis	naísílat
Pres.	isinusulát	ipinaglalarô	ipinagsisíalis	naísusúlat
An-Passive				
Mod.	sulátan	paglaróan	pagsíalisán	masulátan
Fut.	susulátan	paglalaróan	pagsisíalisán	masusulátan
Pret.	sinulátan	pinaglaróan	pinagsíalisán	nasulátan
Pres.	sinusulátan	pinaglalaróan	pinagsisíalisán	naísusulátan

parítón (reduplication  
as in i-passive)

class reduplicate the first syllable of the root instead of the *ka* of the particle, e. g. present active *nagkasisiya* from *magkasiya* 'come to terms.'

In the *magin(g)* and *magkan* classes, according to the regular rule, the final consonant of the particle is not repeated in the reduplication; in the *magkan* class the root is always partially reduplicated in all tense stems, e. g. present, *nagigin(g)banál* 'become righteous,' *nagkakanlulúhà* 'weep uncontrollably.'

In the *magkapa* and *magpati* classes, the syllable *pa* is always the one that is repeated in the reduplication, e. g. present, *nagkapapangisi* 'show the teeth,' *nagpapatiluhód* 'fall on knees.'

Verbs of group IIIa in which the particle retains its form *man*, e. g. *manlibák* 'scoff,' or in which it is assimilated to *mang* before roots beginning in *h* or *y*, e. g. *manghúli* 'live by rapine,' *mangyári* 'be able,' follow the model of *maglarô*. In most verbs of this class, however, the combination of *n* with the initial of the root gives rise to a series of phonetic changes, *nb*, *np* becoming *m*; *ns*, *nt* and sometimes *nd* becoming *n*; *nk* and sometimes *nh* becoming *ng*; *n* before initial vowel becoming *ng*. These changes are to be explained as follows:—

$$\begin{aligned} nb, np &> mb, mp > mm > m \\ ns, nt, nd &> nn > n \\ nk, nh &> ngk, ngh > ngng > ng \end{aligned}$$

In the case of an initial vowel, *n* is changed to *ng* probably on account of the glottal catch which preceded the vowel, viz. *n + ' > ng + ' > ngng > ng*. In the first, third, and last of these processes we have first partial assimilation of the *n* to the following consonant, then complete assimilation of the initial consonant of the root to this sound resulting from *n*, then simplification of the double consonant thus formed. In the second of these processes the juxtaposed consonants are already related as the other groups are after the first assimilation has taken place, so only the last two changes are necessary. The syllable which is reduplicated in present and future is the one beginning with the *m*, *n* or *ng* resulting from this series of changes, otherwise they follow the model of *maglarô*, e. g.:—

root	<i>bigáy</i> 'give'	<i>sumpâ</i> 'curse'	<i>kúha</i> 'take'	<i>isdâ</i> 'fish'
act. mod.	<i>mamigáy</i>	<i>manumpâ</i>	<i>mangúha</i>	<i>mangisdâ</i>
act. pres.	<i>namimigáy</i>	<i>nanunumpâ</i>	<i>nangungúha</i>	<i>nangingisdâ</i>
	etc.	etc.	etc.	etc.

In verbs of the *manhi* class the initial consonant is modified as in the *man* class, just as if the particle were *mankin*, e. g. —

<i>manhimálay</i>	(< <i>pálay</i> 'rice')	'glean'
<i>manhiningâ</i>	(< <i>tingâ</i> )	'clean the teeth'
<i>manhingókó</i>	(< <i>kokó</i> )	'cut the nails'

These verbs follow the model of *magsialís* except in the *in* and *an* passives when *hi* is employed as special passive particle (*panhi* is employed in all three passives, *hi* only in *in* and *an* passives). In these cases *hi* is repeated in present and future just as if it were preceded by *pan*, e. g. future *hihimálayín*, present *hinihimáláyan*.

In group IVa only the *an* passive is made; when the special passive particle is *ma* it follows the model of *masulátan*; when it is *maka* it follows *masulátan* except that in future and present *ka* of *maka* is reduplicated, e. g. present *nakakalimótan*; when it is *ka* it follows the model of *paglaróan*.

In group IVb the first syllable of the root is regularly repeated in future and present as in *makakúha*; in some districts, however, the *ka* of *maka* is reduplicated instead. Verbs with *maka* causative have only an *i* passive made with special particle *ka*, which follows the model of *ipaglarô*. Verbs with *maka* potential follow the model given under IVb.

In group Va the model is that under Va. The syllable that is regularly reduplicated in future and present is the first syllable of the root as in the *mag* class; in verbs of motion, however, like *parító* 'come here' the *pa* may also be reduplicated. In group Vb in the active, and in the passive with special passive particle *pagpa*, the verbs follow the model of *magsialís*; when the passive has the special particle *pa*, it follows like group Va the model of *maglarô*. In group Vc, as in groups IIh and i, the verbs follow in the active, and in the passive with special passive particle *paggpaka*, the model of *magsialís*, except that *pa* is always the syllable repeated in future and present; in passives with special particle *paka* the model of *maglarô* is followed, e. g. present *pinakatatandáan* 'pay attention to.'

#### Secondary and Tertiary Derivation

The verbal particles of two or more classes are often combined in the same verb. The secondary or tertiary particle is regu-

larly prefixed to the passive theme of the primary or secondary verb, which is treated just as the root is in primary derivation, e. g. *magsi-pagáral* 'study (of many),' *magsi-paki-paglarô* 'play together (of many).'

The active stem is used as a basis for secondary derivation in some verbs of group I, which have no special passive theme, and occasionally when *maka* potential is combined with *maka* causative, e. g. *magsumakít* (root *sakít*) 'exert oneself,' *maka-maka-ginháwa* 'be able to cause alleviation.'

The active modal of these secondary and tertiary verbs is identical with the active stem; the preterite is made according to the rule for the particle that stands first. In future and present, when this particle is one that is reduplicated in primary derivation, it is reduplicated here, tho sometimes the form has in addition the reduplication of the primary verb; otherwise the reduplication is regularly in the primary verbal stem according to the rule for the primary particle. In those verbs made on the basis of the active stem of group I, however, the stem is treated just like a simple root. In applying the essential passive particles, the whole secondary verbal stem is treated like a verbal stem with only one particle, e. g.:

pres. act.	<i>nakikipaglarô</i>	from <i>maki-pag-larô</i> 'play with.'
" "	<i>nagsisiparoroón</i>	" <i>magsi-pa-roón</i> 'go there (of many).'
" "	<i>nakapagaáral</i>	" <i>maka-pag-áral</i> 'be able to learn.'
" "	<i>nakapagpapapanhík</i>	" <i>maka-pagpa-panhík</i> 'be able to make come up.'
" "	<i>nagsusumakít</i>	" <i>mag-s-um-akit</i> 'exert oneself.'
pres. pass.	<i>pinakikipaglaróan</i>	" <i>maki-pag-larô</i> 'play with.'
" "	<i>ipinagkakasumunód</i>	" <i>magka-s-um-unód</i> 'follow.'
" "	<i>ipinagpapahindi</i>	" <i>mag-pa-hindi</i> 'say no often.'

#### Verbs with fully<sup>2b</sup> Reduplicated Roots

The fully reduplicated root is often used as the basis for verbal derivation in the various classes, the reduplicated root being regularly treated just like the simple root. The *n* of the particle *man*, however, apparently remains unchanged before the initial of the root, the operation of the regular phonetic law being prevented by the analogical influence of the initial which appears in the second part of the reduplicated root. Moreover, when the form of the verb made from the simple root consists of only

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<sup>2b</sup> Cf. note 2a, above.

two syllables, as in certain irregular actives of verbs of the *um* class, and in syncopated passives, the whole verbal form is repeated to make the fully reduplicated form. The reduplicated forms have sometimes an emphatic, sometimes a diminutive meaning, sometimes either, according as they are pronounced with more or less emphasis, e. g.:—

pres.	<i>s-um-u-sulatsúlat</i>	'writes a little.'
pret.	<i>nagka-sirasírā</i>	'was destroyed completely.'
pres. pass.	<i>d-in-adaladalá</i>	'is carried a little.'
mod.	<i>man-bagyobagyó</i>	'be something like a hurricane.'
"	<i>muli-máli</i> (< <i>úli</i> )	'keep repeating.'
"	<i>dalhin-dalhín</i> (< <i>dalá</i> )	'be carried a little.'

#### Verbal Nouns and Adjectives

Any verbal form of the various classes may be used without change as a participle and take all the constructions of noun or adjective, e. g.:—

- ang nagbibili ay hindi dápat magdáya sa bumibili* 'the seller should not deceive the buyer.'  
*ang táwo-ng iniibig nang Diós* 'the man beloved by God.'  
*ang mangá isusúlat* 'the things to be written.'

From the active future, and sometimes from the active present stem of all the verbal classes except the *um* class, are formed frequentatives or nouns of occupation, e. g. *magbabaká*, *nagbabaká*, 'warrior'; *mananáhì* (*táhì*) 'tailor'; *makahihiyá* 'causing shame, shameful.'

From the passive future or modal stem of the *maka* causative class are made frequentative adjectives like those which end in English in '-able, -ible,' e. g. *makakáin*, *makáin*, 'eatable'; *magagawá*, *magawá*, 'feasible.'

All the verbal classes make abstract nouns of action. In group I they are made by prefixing *pag* to the root, e. g. *pag-súlat* 'act of writing' from *s-um-úlat*; in group IV, by prefixing *pag* to the passive stem with special passive particle *ka*, e. g. *pag-kalumbáy* 'condition of being sad' from *ma-lumbáy* 'be sad,' *pag-katákot* 'act of causing fear' from *maka-tákot* 'cause to fear,' *pag-kalákad* 'condition of being able to go' from *maka-lákad* 'be able to go'; in group Va, by prefixing *pag* to the passive stem with special passive particle *pa*, e. g. *pag-paálam* 'act of asking permission' from *pa-álam* 'ask permission.'

All the other verbal classes (groups II, III and Vb, c) make

these nouns from the passive stem with partial reduplication as in future and present, or stated empirically, by changing the initial *m* or *n* of the active future or present respectively to *p*; in the *magka* class, the reduplicated syllable is always *ka*, even when it is not the reduplicated syllable in the verb, e. g.:

- II *a—pagaáral* ‘act of learning’ from *mag-áral* ‘learn.’
- d—pagkakásála* ‘act of sinning’ from *magka-sála* ‘sin.’
- f—pagigin(g)banál* ‘act of becoming virtuous’ from *magin(g)-banál* ‘become virtuous.’
- III *a—pandidíri* ‘act of becoming nauseated’ from *man-díri* ‘become nauseated.’
- pamimílī* ‘act of buying much’ from *mamílī(bilí)* ‘buy much.’
- V *b—pagpapagawá* ‘act of causing to make’ from *magpa-gawá* ‘cause to make.’

The particle *pag* which is used to form the verbal nouns of groups I, IV, and Va, is probably derived from the *mag* class. It is to be noted that the verbal nouns of these classes lack the reduplication which is usually a characteristic of the formation.

The passive stems of a number of verbs are used without change as nouns, e. g. *paki-nábang* ‘advantage,’ *pa-álam* ‘permission,’ *pangálan* (*pan-ngálan*) ‘name.’

#### Irregularities and Peculiarities

##### *In general*

Certain roots and passive stems may be used without change as active imperatives, e. g. *lákad* ‘go,’ *kúha* ‘take,’ *pagáral* ‘study,’ *pakilaró* ‘play together.’

Besides the regular modal forms, each of the three passives possesses a special impersonal imperative form used without expressed agent. In the *in* passive the root is employed in its original form without suffix *in*; in the *i* passive, suffixed *an* is used instead of prefixed *i*; in the *an* passive a suffix *i* is used instead of suffixed *an*, the root usually standing in its original form without syncopation. These imperatives are made principally from roots, but also occasionally from passive stems, e. g. *ábut* for *abútin* ‘get;’ *hígít* for *higtín* ‘stretch out;’ *tapónan* for *ítápon* ‘throw;’ *bukasí* for *buksán* ‘open;’ *pá-buksí* for *pá-buksán* ‘open still more quickly.’

The forms of the passive verbs made with the suffixes *in* and *an* present many irregularities. Roots ending in a simple vowel<sup>2c</sup>

<sup>2c</sup> That is, a vowel without following glottal catch.

insert *h* before the suffixes, e. g. *sabí-h-in*, *sabí-h-an* from *sábi* ‘say.’ Many roots syncopate the vowel of the final syllable before the suffixes, e. g. *sakt-ín*, *sakt-án* from *sakit* ‘sick.’ Others suffer metathesis as well as syncope, e. g. *apt-ín*, *apt-án* from *átip* ‘thatch’; others, loss of intervocalic *h* as well as syncope, e. g. *bís-ín*, *bís-an*, from *bíhis* ‘change clothes.’ About ten present sporadic irregularities. The uncontracted form of these passives is sometimes used, especially when the root has a verbal particle prefixed, e. g. *pagka-sakítan* ‘labor incessantly’ from *sakit* (syn. *sakt-án*).

The *i* passive denoting cause may be made in any class by *ika* instead of *i*, that is, instead of the simple root, the passive stem of the *maka* causative class is used as the basis of the passive formation.

Special emphatic or frequentative forms are made in many classes by reduplicating an additional syllable of the root in all tense forms, by shifting the accent from penult to ultima, or by both means combined; the simple verbs corresponding to *mag* verbs of this type are of the *um*, not of the *mag* class: e. g. mod. *magbibilí* ‘buy much’ (*bumilí* ‘buy’), pres. *nagbibibilí* ‘buys much’; mod. *magarál* ‘teach much’ (*umáral* ‘teach’); mod. *magkakagotóm* ‘prevail’ (of famine) from *gótom* ‘hunger’. Sometimes this reduplication is taken by forms made from fully reduplicated roots, e. g. *magkasisirasirà* ‘be utterly destroyed.’

#### *Um-Class*

In preterite and present the simple particle *um* may be used instead of *ungm*, the preterite thus being identical with the modal, e. g. *sumúlat*, *sumusúlat*. The present may also be formed by prefixing *na* to the root, e. g. *na-súlat*.

In roots with *i* in the first syllable, the *u* of the particle *um* may be assimilated to *i*, giving *im*, e. g. *l-im-íaw* from *linaw* ‘clear’; *im-inúm* from *inúm* ‘drink.’

The *i* passive of roots with initial *h*, *l*, and *w*, tho sometimes made according to the rule for roots with initial consonant, regularly follows the norm of the *i* passive of roots with initial vowel; roots beginning with other consonants have sometimes the same formation, e. g.:—

root *hólog* ‘fall’

pret. *ini-hólog*, *ina-hólog*

pres. *ini-hohólog*, *ina-hohólog*

*pások* ‘enter’

*ini-pások*, *ina-pások*

*ini-papások*, *ina-papások*

Some roots beginning with vowels or with *l* or *y*, take the prefix *ni* in preterite and present of the *in* and *an* passives instead of the prefix-infix *in*, e. g. pret. *ni-unáhan* (*una* 'first') 'was preceded by'; *ni-yákap* 'was embraced'; pres. *ni-lolótò* 'is cooked.'

Dissyllabic roots beginning with the labials *b* or *p*, besides having the regular active forms, may change *b* or *p* to *m* for the modal, to *n* for the preterite, and reduplicate the first syllable of the preterite for the present. A small group of roots with other initials, both consonant and vocalic, may also take this formation in addition to the regular one, in the case of vocalic initial the *m* and *n* being prefixed. The future of these verbs is always regular, e. g. :—

root	<i>bása</i> 'read'	<i>toksó</i> 'tempt'	<i>alís</i> 'go'
mod.	<i>mása</i>	<i>moksó</i>	<i>malís</i>
pret.	<i>násá</i>	<i>noksó</i>	<i>nalís</i>
pres.	<i>nanásá</i>	<i>nonoksó</i>	<i>nanalís</i>

A large number of polysyllabic roots beginning with *pa*, which are in most cases simply passive stems of the different verbal classes,<sup>2d</sup> form their active tense stems by changing *p* to *m* in modal and future, to *n* in preterite and present, and reduplicating the second syllable of the root in future and present; in the passive these roots are treated like dissyllabic roots except that in future and present the second syllable, and not the first, is reduplicated; the verbal noun of action is made from the present or future according to the usual rule, e. g. :—

root	<i>pakinábang</i>	
mod.	<i>makinábang</i>	<i>pakinabángan</i>
fut.	<i>makikinábang</i>	<i>pakikinabángan</i>
pret.	<i>nakinábang</i>	<i>pinakinabángan</i>
pres.	<i>nakikinábang</i>	<i>pinakikinabángan</i>
vb. noun	<i>pakikinábang</i>	

Certain of these polysyllabic roots with initial *p* follow the model of dissyllabic roots like *bása* above.

#### Other Classes

Some fully reduplicated roots combined with *mag* and the subsidiary particle *an* (cf. below) may take the infix *in* in the

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<sup>2d</sup> Cf. W. G. Seiple, *Polysyllabic roots with initial P in Tagalog*, JAOS. 25 (1904), p. 287-301.

first syllable of the root with a distributive meaning, e. g. *mag-h-in-anaphanap-án* ‘to seek each his own.’

Certain verbs of the *maki* class modify the initial of the root in the same way as verbs of the *manhi* class, just as if the particle were *makin*, e. g. *makimalítá* (*balítá*) ‘ask for news,’ *makinósó* (*sósó*) ‘ask to be suckled.’

Verbs of the *ma* class, especially those that denote destruction, are used in the root form to indicate a present state, usually one in which the action indicated by the root has reached its completion, e. g. *patáy* ‘is dead,’ from *ma-patáy*, *sírà* ‘is destroyed’ from *ma-sírà*.

The combination of the quasi-verb *na* ‘is’ and its following oblique case is sometimes treated as if it were an active verb of the *ma* class, and a present and future are made on this basis, e. g. pres. *narirító* from *narító* ‘is here,’ fut. *masasaán* from *nasaán* ‘where is.’

The *an* passive of *álam* ‘know’ in the *maka* potential class has, besides the regular preterite and present of the *an* passive, the forms pret. *naláman*, pres. *nalaáman*.

The passive stem of many verbs of the *magpa* class may be used as a sort of verbal noun to indicate a thing ordered to be done, or a thing given as something, e. g. *padalá* ‘thing ordered to be brought,’ *parúsa* ‘thing given as punishment, penance.’

The passive stem of verbs of this class denoting to put in a certain position, are used as adverbs indicating the manner or position in which anything is done, e. g. *paupô* ‘seated,’ *paluhód* ‘kneeling.’

#### VERBS MADE WITH SUBSIDIARY PARTICLES

##### With Primary Particles

The primary subsidiary particles are *ka*; *kapag*, *kapagka*, *pagka*, *pag*; *ka-an*; *paka*; *pá*.

*Ka* is used as a prefix as follows:—

- a) with partially reduplicated roots to form emphatic active imperatives, e. g. *kalalákad* ‘go quickly.’
- b) with partially reduplicated roots or passive verbal stems reduplicated as in future and present, in the sense of ‘have just,’ e. g. *kararatíng* (*dating*) ‘have just arrived,’ *kapangangáral* (*pangáral*) ‘have just preached.’
- c) with fully reduplicated roots or passive stems to which it imparts the idea of ‘as soon as’; the passive stems may be reduplicated as if they were simple roots, or the reduplication may begin with the same syllable

as in the reduplicated forms of the same verb, e. g. *katakbotakbó* ‘as soon as—began to run’; *kapangupangúsap* or *kapangusapngúsap* ‘as soon as—began to speak.’

*Kapag*, *kapagka*, *pagka*, *pag* are used as prefixes to roots and passive stems in a sense very similar to that of *ka* with fully reduplicated roots; *kapag* is also prefixed to nouns in the sense of ‘being, inasmuch as is,’ e. g. *kapagalís* ‘as soon as—went’; *kapagkasábi* ‘as soon as—had said’; *kapagpáre* ‘inasmuch as he is a priest.’

The combined prefix and suffix *ka—an* is used as follows:—

- a) with roots in the sense of ‘to be about to,’ e. g. *kamatáyan* ‘being about to die.’
- b) with roots indicating the reason why, e. g. *katakótan* ‘because of fear.’
- c) with roots and passive verbal stems to denote that the action indicated falls to the lot of the agent, e. g. *katanóran* ‘turn to be shepherd,’ *kapagmisahán* ‘turn to say mass.’

*Paka* is prefixed to any word in the sense of ‘to be like, fill the place of.’ These compound words are treated as passive stems, and are used in the *in* passive, ordinarily in the preterite with the meaning of a present, sometimes in the imperative, e. g. *pinaka-tinápay* ‘takes the place of bread,’ *paka-pilák-in* ‘take instead of silver.’

The prefix *pá* pronounced with separate accent forms emphatic imperatives indicating to perform with greater energy than before; *pá* is treated like a special passive particle, making passive imperatives according to rule, and also impersonal imperatives like those on p. 406, e. g. *pá-hampas-in* ‘be beaten still more severely’; *i-pá-táas* ‘raise still more’; *pá-bigyán* ‘be presented with still more’; *pá-buksi* ‘open still more quickly.’

#### With Secondary Particles

The chief secondary subsidiary particles are *nga*, *-an*, and *ga*. The particle *nga* is inserted after the first vowel of the active verbal forms beginning with *mag*, *ma* or their derived forms *nag*, *na*, to indicate plurality of agents. The principal verbal classes that take this particle are the *mag*, *magsi*, *magka*, *magpati*, and *ma* classes, e. g. *na-nga-gtatángis* ‘are weeping’ from *magtangís*, *na-nga-mamatáy* ‘are dying’ from *mamatáy*.

The particle *an* is suffixed to the active forms of certain of

the verbal classes, the most important of which are the *mag*, *magka*, *maki*, and *manhi* classes. It usually imparts a reciprocal meaning, or emphasizes that meaning when the verb is already reciprocal; with intransitive verbs it indicates to perform the action in competition with others; certain transitive verbs double the suffix to indicate competition, e. g. *magtulóng-an* 'help one another,' *makitaním-an* 'hate one another,' *magtakbó-han* 'run in competition with others,' *magtolak-ánan* 'push one another to see which will push the hardest.'

The particle *ga* is prefixed to a verbal form in the sense of to feign to be or do what the root indicates, e. g. *ga-nagbibili* 'he feigns to be selling,' *ga-bungmibili* 'he feigns to be buying.'

#### CONSTRUCTION OF VERBS

##### Verbs with Tense Particles

##### *Use of Active and Passive*

The use of the active and passive is not optional as in English. In any given sentence the voice of the verb depends upon the relative importance of the various elements, the most important or most emphatic idea being made the subject of the sentence. If this is the agent of the action expressed by the verb, the active voice is used; if it is any other element of the sentence, then one of the three passives is employed. In general the *in* passive is used when the object of an action towards the agent (e. g. to take) is made the subject; the *i* passive when the subject is the object of an action away from the agent (e. g. to give), or the instrument or cause of the action; the *an* passive, when a place or anything regarded as place stands as subject.<sup>3</sup> A definite object is usually more emphatic than the agent of the action, hence the passive is regularly employed when the object is definite. Passive constructions are far more frequent than active, in fact they may be said to be the rule, and active constructions the exception.

##### *Active Verbs*

The subject may stand either before or after the verb. In the first case the two are joined by the particle *ay* ('y after a vowel); in the second the two are simply juxtaposed. The

<sup>3</sup> Cf. my article *Expression of Case by the Verb in Tagalog*, JAOS. 26 (1906), p. 183-189.

object of the verb may stand in the genitive or oblique case<sup>4</sup>; generally speaking the genitive corresponds to the direct object in English, the oblique, to the indirect. The genitive and oblique objects regularly stand after the verb and its subject, e. g.:—

<i>akó'y sungmusúlat</i> <i>sungmusúlatakó</i> <i>ikáw ay 'gumúlang</i> <i>gumúlang ka</i>	<i>nang libro</i> ‘I am writing a book.’ <i>sa mangá matatandá</i> ‘respect the aged.’
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In some idioms the object stands directly after the verb without case sign; or the two are connected by the ligature, especially when the verb ends in a vowel, e. g. *magbalík lóob sa Diós* ‘turn (your) heart to God’; *kumúha-ng hátol* ‘take counsel.’

#### Passive Verbs

The subject of the passive verbs has the same construction as that of the active verbs. The agent of the passive may stand before or after the verb: after the verb a noun agent takes the genitive, and a pronominal agent the postpositive form of the genitive; before the verb, a noun agent stands in the oblique, a pronominal agent in the prepositive genitive, both taking the ligature before the verb. A passive verb may also be accompanied by one or more indirect objects which correspond to English prepositional phrases. When the indirect object of the *i* and *an* passives corresponds to the direct object of the active in English, it stands in the genitive; ‘with’ (of means and instrument) and ‘with respect to’ are expressed by the genitive; ‘to,’ ‘for,’ ‘in,’ ‘from,’ by the oblique. A pronominal agent stands next to the verb, and can be separated from it only by certain adverbs: the order of nominal genitive agent, indirect objects, and the subject when it follows the verb is not fixed, but in general pronouns precede nouns, e. g.:—

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\* There are three cases in Tagalog, nominative, genitive, and oblique. The case of nouns is ordinarily indicated by the forms of the articles or demonstratives—viz. article with common nouns, *ang*, *nang*, *sa*; article with personal names *si*, *ni*, *kay*; demonstratives, nom. with initial *i*- or *y*-, gen. with *n*-, oblique with *d*-, e. g., *ító*, *nitó*, *ditó*. The personal pronouns have special forms. Cf. in my article *Contributions to comparative Philippine grammar*, JAOS. 27 (1906), the section on ‘Pronouns derived from particles,’ p. 337-396, esp. p. 386 ff.

ang libro'y binása ko  
 binása ko ang libro } 'I read the book'  
 ang libro'y áking binása } (the book was read by me).  
 áking binásá ang libro  
 si María ay iniibig ni Luis 'Luis loves Maria.'  
 itó'y kay Pedro-*ng* ginawâ 'Pedro made this.'  
 ang libro'y hanápín mo nang ílaw 'look for the book with the light (let  
     the book be sought by you with the light).'  
 ipanhík mo sa báhay itó-*ng* mangá ságíng 'bring these bananas up into  
     the house.'  
 panhíkan mo akó niyáng mangá ságíng 'bring those bananas up to me  
     (let me be brought to by you with these bananas).'  
 ibilí mo ang bátâ nang kánin 'buy the boy some food.'  
 ipagbílí mo sa ámin iyáng mangá manúk 'sell us these chickens.'  
 binigyán siyá nang bulaklák nang kapatíd mo 'your brother gave him  
     some flowers.'  
 ilabás mo ang áking salawál sa kabán 'take my trousers out of the chest.'  
 ang súlat ay hinánap niyá nitó-*ng* ílaw sa silid 'he looked for the letter  
     in the room with this light.'

An indirect object that would ordinarily stand in the genitive is sometimes simply joined to the preceding verb by the ligature, e. g.:—

ikáw ay binigyáng panahón (= nang panahón) 'you were given time.'  
 akó'y itináwag na kompisióñ (= nang kompisióñ) 'a priest was called to  
     confess me (I was the cause of calling for confession).'

### Verbs with Primary Subsidiary Particles

With the exception of the emphatic imperatives with *ka*, which have the construction of active verbs, and the imperatives with *pá* which sometimes have the active construction, all the verbal forms with primary subsidiary particles have the construction of passive verbs; forms with prefixed *ka*, *kapag*, *kapagka*, *pagka*, *pag*, usually stand at the beginning of the sentence, e. g. *kara-*  
*rating* *ko pa* 'I have just arrived'; *kapagalís* *nang áking amá'y*  
*akó'y ungmalís* *din* 'as soon as my father departed, I went also';  
*kaalísan* *ko na* 'I am about to go'; *kayó po'y pinakamagúlang*  
*námin* 'you, sir, are like a father to us'; *pá-hampasin* *mo siyá*  
'beat him still more severely.'

## CONCLUSION

In the foregoing pages an attempt has been made to give a brief outline of all the principal features of the Tagalog verb in as clear and concise a form as possible. No attempt has been made to be exhaustive, no lists of irregular forms and no long discussion of the various uses of the different verbal forms being given. It is believed, however, that the information here made available will enable any student of Tagalog to understand the make-up and construction of practically any Tagalog verbal form much better than is at present possible on the basis of any of the grammars so far published. A similar brief comparative study of the verbal systems of all the principal Philippine languages is much to be desired, and such a study I hope to have time to prepare in the near future.